

NAVY MEDICINE'S 2017 SAILORS OF THE YEAR, ACROSS THE ENTERPRISE

Editor's note: These hospital corpsmen were recognized as the Senior Sailors of the Year at their prospective regional commands, Navy Medicine East, Navy Medicine West, Navy Medicine Education Training and Logistics Command, and U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. These four sailors will now compete for the title of Navy Medicine's 2017 Sailor of the Year, who will move on to compete in the Navy Shore Sailor of the Year competition later this year. The winner of that competition will be meritoriously promoted to chief petty officer.

The Sailor of the Year program was established in 1972 by the Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Elmo Zumwalt and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy John Whittet to recognize an individual Sailor who best represented the ever-growing group of dedicated professional Sailors at each command and ultimately the Navy.

Navy Medicine East



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Stephane Belcher/Released)

Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Alexanderia N. Artis

Command: Naval Hospital Jacksonville

Current location: Jacksonville, Florida

Hometown: Little Rock, Arkansas

Educational Background: Southeast High School, Wichita KS 2002, Pennsylvania State University BA Law and Society 2015

Years in the Navy: 15

Brief job description: Medical Laboratory Technician, Leading Petty Officer of the laboratory at Naval Hospital Jacksonville.

Achievements, milestones and medals:

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal

Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist

Flag Letter of Commendation (3) as well as various unit awards



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Stephane Belcher/Released)

If you could sum up your experience with Navy Medicine in one sentence, what would you say?

“Navy Medicine has taught me about more than just medicine, we’re always working to improve to for patients and providers.”

Navy Medicine West



(U.S. Navy Photo by Miguel Alvarez/Released)

Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Jane Lynn V. Borja

Command: Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton

Current location: Camp Pendleton, California

Hometown: Dededo, Guam

Educational Background: University of Maryland University College – Associates in Science, 2012

Years in the Navy: 13

Brief job description: Nuclear Medicine Technologist, Leading Petty Officer of Radiology Department

Achievements, milestones and medals:

USS O’Kane (DDG-77) Blue Jacket of the Year, 2007

Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton Senior Sailor of the year, 2017

Navy Medicine West Senior Sailor of the Year, 2017

Enlisted Surface Warfare

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals (4)

Meritorious Outstanding Volunteer Medal (1)



(Photo courtesy of HM1 Borja)

If you could sum up your experience with Navy Medicine in one sentence, what would you say?

"I'm honored to have the opportunity to lead and inspire Sailors every day and provide the best medical care 365 days a year."

Navy Medicine Education, Training and Logistics Command



(U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Lieberknecht/Released)

Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Name: Patricia Lopez-Cruz

Command: Navy Medicine Training Support Center

Current location: San Antonio, Texas

Hometown: Fallbrook, California

Educational Background: Fallbrook High School, 2004 , University of Maryland University College Europe, 2015

Years in the Navy: 12

Current Title: Navy Dental Assistant Program Leading Petty Officer

Achievements, milestones and medals:

Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist

Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist

Enlisted Fleet Marine Force Warfare Specialist

Master Training Specialist, Shellback

Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal (2)

Joint Service Achievement Medal and various unit awards



(Photo courtesy of HM1 Lopez-Cruz)

If you could sum up your experience with Navy Medicine in one sentence, what would you say?

"I have had the fortunate opportunity to learn from the best and take care of the best throughout my Navy Medicine career."

U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery



(Photo courtesy of HM1 Solomon)

Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Jon Solomon

Command: U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Current location: Falls Church, Virginia

Hometown: Thousand Oaks, California

Educational Background: Thousand Oaks High School, 2002, California State University Northridge, 2007

Years in the Navy: 7

Brief job description: Enlisted Aerospace Medicine Program Manager,

Achievements, milestones and medals:

Hospital Corps School "A" School Valedictorian

Aerospace Medical Technician "C" School Honor Graduate

Three deployments with the Marine Air Wing

Most proud of having had one my junior Sailors receive their FMF pin on top of Mt Suribachi, Iwo Jima.

Awards include the Navy Commendation Medal

Navy Achievement Medals,(2)

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal

Presidential Volunteer Service Award



(Photo courtesy of HM1 Solomon)

If you could sum up your experience with Navy Medicine in one sentence, what would you say?

"Navy Medicine has provided opportunities I couldn't get anywhere else and the Sailors I've worked with have made the journey memorable and rewarding!"